

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) Device for ~~sterilising~~ sterilizing objects, the device being adapted to create from a gaseous flow subjected to an electric field a gaseous plasma of which a post-discharge flow which issues therefrom is brought into contact with a surface of the objects to be treated, the device comprising:

a sterilization chamber having therein a metal object holder on which the objects to be sterilized are disposed, wherein walls of said sterilisation chamber comprise a material that is adapted to heat up by recombination of nitrogen and have a capacity of recombination of nitrogen less than that of said metal object holder; and

means for producing said plasma from a gaseous flow exclusively constituted by nitrogen, said means for producing including an enclosure in which the gaseous plasma is produced, said enclosure comprising a generator of microwaves and being connected to said sterilization chamber by a conduit, the post-discharge flow that issues from the gaseous plasma being admitted via [[a]] said conduit into [[a]] said sterilization chamber ~~in which said objects are disposed; and,~~

~~means for heating said objects to a temperature of at least 60°C, said means for heating including a metal object holder disposed in said sterilization chamber, wherein~~ said metal object holder ~~heating~~ and the walls heat under the effect of recombination of the nitrogen and heat the objects on said metal object holder to at least 60°C ~~heating said objects held thereby.~~

2-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein ~~the sterilisation chamber is constituted by~~ said sterilization chamber is an autoclave.

6-7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said metal object ~~holder~~ is made of brass.

9-20. (canceled)